REPLY



To: Examiner of the Patent Office

1. Identification of the International Application PCT/JP2004/001425

2. Applicant

Name:

CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

Address:

3-30-2, Shimomaruko, Ohta-ku, Tokyo

146-8501 Japan

Country of Nationality: JAPAN

Country of Residence:

JAPAN

3. Agent

Name:

KATO, Nobuaki



Address:

No. 602, Fuji Bldg., 2-3,

Marunouchi 3-chome, Chiyoda-ku,

Tokyo 100-0005 Japan

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5. Subject Matter of Reply:

The present invention as recited in the claims amended under Article 19(1) is characterized by extracting the feature information of electronic data, transmitting the extracted feature information and the user ID to the server apparatus, and controlling printing of the electronic data based on original certification information notified by

the server based on the transmitted feature information and user ID.

Accordingly, in the present invention, even if the electronic data itself is not transmitted to the server apparatus, the printing which assures that the electronic data is original or authentic can be achieved.

In other words, in the present invention, since the electronic data is not transmitted on the network in case of printing the electronic data, the printing which assures that the electronic data is original or authentic can be achieved without influencing the traffic on the network.

In the meantime, Document 1 (D1: EP 1197828 A1) discloses that the electronic data is received by the server, and the received electronic data is printed after assuring that this data is authentic data. That is, in D1, since the electronic data is transmitted to the server in case of printing the electronic data, the network itself is influenced to no small extent.

Accordingly, it is believed that the present invention as recited in the claims amended under Article 19(1) is clearly distinguishable from D1.